



City of Annapolis

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Annapolis Environmental Commission

November 6, 2013

The Annapolis Environmental Commission (AEC) held its regular meeting on November 6, 2013 at 145 Gorman Street, Conference Room 3. **Chair** Weber called the meeting to order at 7:11p.m.

Present: **Chair** Weber, **Vice Chair** Kissel, O'Leary, Kiraly, Dr. Riegel, Pogell

Absent: Butler, Zolper

Staff Present: Broadbent, Biba, Waters

Guest: P. Murphy, S. Weber, Alderman Littman

II. October 2, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Mr. O'Leary moved approval of the October 2, 2013 minutes as written. **Vice Chair** Kissel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 6-0.

III. **REGULAR BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMISSION**

A. **Subcommittee Reports**

1. Development Review

Mr. Biba distributed an update memo on the development projects dated October 28, 2013. He noted that the only update relates to the Thomas Woods project as described below.

a. Reserve at Quiet Waters Update

There was none.

b. Crystal Spring Update

There was none.

c. Thomas Woods

Ms. Broadbent clarified that the developer has not provided an official application on the stormwater management. **Chair** Weber noted that the Forest Conservation Plan submittal contained drawings of stormwater management ponds, which would be contrary to state preference for Environmental Site Design. Mr. Biba added that DNEP comments detailed the footprint that is expected to be saved on the project.

2. Recycling

There was no report from the Recycling subcommittee.

Ms. Broadbent discussed the plans for more recycling at the Market House plaza with the DPW staff. There will be post card mailings regarding more recycling during the holidays. The post cards will detail how to recycle leaves and will be translated in multiple languages. The post cards will be distributed to landscape companies and properties that have landscape companies as well as distributed to those whom the inspector deem appropriate.

Vice Chair Kissel discussed the Watershed Stewards Academy program where residents are asked to clean up the leaves from impermeable surfaces such as streets, sidewalks and gutters. The intent of the program is to educate the residents of the dangers of leaves and the program has selected an area of Ward 1 to begin the process of distributing literature as well as encouraging them to pledge to clean up the area. He noted that anyone taking the pledge will receive a leaf bag donated by True Value Hardware store and a discount is available on additional leaf bags. For the next four weeks, crews will be going out on four different streets and taking photographs of the leaves and the leaf coverage will be determined. **Vice Chair** Kissel said that the leaf coverage condition observations from Ward 1 will be used for comparison purposes and agreed to provide the comparison findings to Ms. Broadbent. He is also encouraging residents to compost the leaves. To encourage pledges, Ms. Broadbent agreed to donate a compost bin to be used for a drawing. Ms. Weber explained that the program currently has 100 pledges to date and the intent is to continue to distribute literature at the pledge drive. **Vice Chair** Kissel clarified that there were a lot of homeowners who were upset that the vacuuming of leaves was discontinued. Ms. Broadbent noted that it is a very expensive way of collecting leaves. **Vice Chair** Kissel noted that the options for leaf collection should be identified or address in a newsletter or newspaper article for residents to use.

3. Outreach

Mr. O'Leary noted that when the City updated its website, they lost a number of documents. The city also implemented of a new content management system that is intended to make it easier to incorporate new content. He noted that AEC lost a number of links and stored documents as the result of the update. He agreed to continue the newsletter deployment using the same schedule.

4. Water Quality/Stormwater

Ms. Pogell hopes that once the WIP is in place that the neighborhood involvement in stormwater control will be highlighted and made much more active. There was significant discussion regarding stormwater resources.

5. Renewable Energy

Chair Weber had nothing new to report on the renewable energy efforts. Mr. Murphy and Mr. Biba both attended a Maryland seminar and there were a lot interested topics. He will be meeting with Jerry South of Towne Park parking garage regarding solar panels for the parking garage for cost savings on electricity.

B. DNEP Report

This was addressed under the Development Review.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Appointments to Fill Vacancies

Chair Weber noted that Ms. Weber has been interviewed and Mr. Murphy will be interviewed next week. After the final results of the election are determined he plans to touch base with the Mayor or the new Mayor on the status of the filling of the AEC's vacancies.

B. Ordinance #O-21-13

(for the purpose of implementing the State of Maryland's Forest Conservation Act)
Alderman Littman reminded the AEC that this ordinance has expired because it was not approved prior to the deadline so the AEC now has opportunity to submit new legislation. The AEC deferred the discussion on this agenda item as it is no longer relevant.

C. Other City Legislative Matters

There was no legislation.

D. Topics for November 12, 2013 Environmental Breakfast Meeting

There was no discussion on this topic.

E. AEC Quorum Resolution

This agenda item is no longer relevant since the term expired.

F. No Discharge Zone

This agenda item is no longer relevant since the term expired.

G. Update Website

This was discussed under Outreach.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Update AEC Strategic Priorities

Chair Weber provided written copies of the AEC Strategic priorities and asked members to review as well as note if there were other priorities that should be added. **Vice Chair** Kissel believes that the list was sufficient as submitted.

Vice Chair Kissel moved approval of the strategic priorities list as presented. Ms. Kiraly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 5-0, with one abstention (Chair Weber).

B. Other

Vice Chair Kissel provided a copy of a brochure/pamphlet and stated that Mr. Pantelides's mayoral campaign used the AEC logo in his election without permission from the AEC. There was discussion regarding the best approach to addressing the concern. The AEC agreed to contact the City Clerk regarding their concerns and to solicit advice on the best approach.

Vice Chair Kissel moved to include their objections to Mr. Pantelides using the AEC logo without permission in the newsletter and a letter to the Capital. Mr. Kiraly seconded the motion. The motion passed in a vote of 4-1 with (Riegel dissent) and one abstention.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Pogell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:56pm. Ms. Kiraly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 6-0.

The next AEC meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2013 at 7:00pm at the Riegel residence.

Tami Hook, Recorder